

BROADWOODWIDGER RURAL DISTRICT COUNCIL

ANNUAL REPORT OF THE MEDICAL OFFICER OF
HEALTH FOR THE YEAR 1939

Mr. Chairman and Gentlemen,

I beg to submit the annual report for 1939. Owing to the present state of affairs the Ministry have instructed the preparation of a short interim report to be followed by a full one when occasion allows.

The general health of your district remained consistently good throughout the year.

The following table gives the more important statistics.

1. General Statistics.

Area (Statute acres).....	29239 acres.
Population 1931 Census.....	1995
Estimated population, mid-1939...	1978
National registration popn:.....	2036
No. of inhabited houses.....	564
Rateable value.....	4059
Product of penny rate.....	£17. 6. 6d.

2. Vital Statistics.

	<u>Males</u>	<u>Females</u>	<u>Total</u>	<u>England</u>
Live births	16	10	26	
Birth rate				13.3 15.0
Deaths	7	10	17	
Death rate				8.7 12.1

No deaths were recorded of children under 1 year. The chief causes of death were heart disease and cancer.

The general provision of the health services remain as in previous years. The schools were visited regularly and the school-children examined. The chief defects found were under-nourishment and tonsils. The great majority of the children were found to be very healthy.

Infectious diseases were at a minimum during the year. Of the notifiable diseases there were three cases of pneumonia and one of measles. Under the tuberculosis regulations two new cases were notified making five cases in all on the register.

I am,

Your obedient servant,

E.T. ALLEN-PRICE.

SANITARY INSPECTOR'S REPORT

Mr. Chairman and Gentlemen,

I beg to submit for your consideration my Annual Report and Summary of work carried out during the year 1939.

HOUSING

The Council decided to build two cottages for agricultural workers under the Housing (Financial Provisions) Act 1938 in the parish of North Petherwin. Negotiations for the site had actually started when the War broke out with the inevitable result of the Scheme being postponed.

Private building was confined to the erection of a bungalow at Venn Moor, Broadwoodwidge whilst plans for a farmhouse at Pool were passed by the Council.

Housing (Rural Workers) Acts

The only building to be reconditioned under these Acts was a cottage at Pool which had previously been the subject of a demolition order.

This makes a total of thirteen cottages re-conditioned under these Acts.

General Housing

63 Cottages were inspected during the year. 3 Cottages were repaired as the result of statutory notices including one at Boles Bridge, North Petherwin which had been the subject of a demolition order. This latter was completely gutted internally and satisfactorily re-conditioned together with the provision of a new roof.

16 Cottages were repaired as the result of informal notices.

HOUSING STATISTICS

SECTION D. HOUSING.

- (1) Inspection of dwelling houses during the year
 - (i)(a) Total number of dwellinghouses inspected during the year for housing defects.....63
 - (b) Number of inspections made for the purpose.....137
 - (ii)(a) Number of dwellinghouses (included under sub-head (i) above) which were inspected under the Housing Consolidated Regulations 1925.....52
 - (b) Number of inspections made for the purpose.....65
 - (iii) Number of dwellinghouses found to be in a state so dangerous or injurious to health as to be unfit for human habitation..Nil
 - (iv) Number of dwellinghouses (exclusive of those referred to under the preceding sub-heading) found not to be in all respects reasonably fit for human habitation.....24

- (2) Remedy of defects during the year without service of formal notice:-
- Number of defective dwellinghouses rendered fit in consequence of informal action by the Local Authority or their Officer.....16
- (3) Action under Statutory Powers during the year:-
- (i) Number of dwellinghouses in respect of which notices were served requiring repairs.....3
- (ii) Number of dwellinghouses which were rendered fit after service of formal notices:-
- (a) By owners.....2
- (b) By Local Authority in default.....Nil

PROCEEDINGS UNDER PUBLIC HEALTH ACTS

- (1) Number of dwellinghouses in respect of which notices were served requiring defects to be remedied.....4
- (2) Number of dwellinghouses in which defects were remedied after service of formal notices:-
- (a) By Owners.....1
- (b) By Local Authority in default...1

PROCEEDINGS UNDER SECS. 11 & 13 of HOUSING ACT 1936

- (1) Number of houses in respect of which Demolition Orders were made.....Nil
- (2) Number of dwellinghouses demolished in pursuance of Demolition Orders.....2

PROCEEDINGS UNDER SECTION 12 of HOUSING ACT 1936

- (1) Number of separate tenements or underground rooms in respect of which Closing Orders were made.....Nil
- (2) Number of separate tenements or underground rooms in respect of which Closing Orders were determined the tenement or room having been made fit.....Nil

OVERCROWDING

Two cases of overcrowding were met with and reported to the Council. In each case, after the serving of a formal notice, the overcrowding was abated.

MEAT INSPECTION

146 visits were paid for the purpose of Meat inspection, and it was found necessary to condemn the following:-

4 Sheep carcasses and offals
8 Pigs Heads
About 40 lbs of beef
A few diseased organs.

SCHOOLS

There are 5 Schools in the district to which 20 visits were paid.

As long ago as July 1937, I was informed that the Education Committee intended re-modelling the offices at Werrington School and substituting water-closets for the existing pail closets. Although it was promised that the work should be done in 1938, I am sorry to have to report that the improvement has not taken place.

BUILDING BYE-LAWS

During the year the Council adopted and the Minister of Health approved of the new series of Building Bye-Laws made under the Public Health Act 1936 which are now in force in the district.

MILK PRODUCTION

184 Cowsheds and 28 Dairies were inspected during the year. 36 informal notices were served, mostly requiring the cleansing of walls and floors. During the year, 10 Cowsheds were provided with satisfactory concrete floors and channels.

There are still only 2 producers of Accredited Milk in the district.

It is pleasing to record that during the last three years the standard of clean milk production in the district has been steadily improving.

I am, Gentlemen,

Your obedient Servant,

T. A. JUDD,

Sanitary Inspector.

